



# ***PRESS RELEASE***

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: Friday, August 10, 2007**  
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### **Suspect in 2006 murder arrested**

*Gang member fatally shot Crystal Theobald; wounded driver*

Riverside, CA -- A suspect in the 2006 murder of 24-year-old Crystal Theobald was among the 11 persons arrested in a warrant arrest sweep of members of the Varrio 5150 criminal street gang, on Wednesday, August 8, 2007.

On the night of Friday, February 24, 2006, suspect Julio Heredia (aka "Lil Huero") and his associates were cruising through the Arlanza neighborhood of Riverside looking to challenge a rival gang. Heredia, now 20, allegedly got out of a SUV he had been riding in, and fired a handgun at a passing vehicle, which sped away. Heredia then allegedly fired several rounds at the Theobald vehicle as it entered the intersection of Greenpoint Avenue and Geranium Place. Bullets struck 20-year-old driver Juan Patlan in the abdomen and Crystal Theobald in the head. Another passenger escaped injury. Juan recovered; Crystal died the next day, on Feb. 25.

Investigation led Riverside Police detectives to a group of Hispanic young men identified as members of Varrio 5150, a La Sierra area-based criminal street gang. Seven young men, including Heredia, were determined to have been in the SUV at the time of the shooting, including recently-arrested suspect Romiro Casillas.

SUV driver suspect William Sotelo, now 19, is still at large and is wanted for murder.

Witnesses contacted by police in connection with the homicide investigation reported being threatened by other members of the 5150 gang, including suspect Billy Enriquez Jr., now 19, known as "Big Huero" and identified as leader of the 5150 gang. Enriquez is still at large. Arrested suspects Jose Ramirez, 20; Daniel Correa, 18; and Luis Campana-Contreras, 18; took part in witness intimidation that took place in Countryside Park, a small community park the gang claimed by way of extensive graffiti.

Brothers Campana-Contreras, Frankie Contreras, 17, and Sammy Contreras, 16, and an unrelated male juvenile suspect allegedly took part in continued intimidation of witnesses in and around the surrounding neighborhood during the following week. Named juveniles are charged as adults.

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